

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 ABIDJA 06291 01 OF 02 230937Z  
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04  
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01  
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 DHA-02 TRSE-00 ACDA-07 AID-05  
IOE-00 /096 W

-----054939 231159Z /14

P 221551Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4118

INFO AMEMBASSY BAMAKO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 ABIDJAN 6291

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, US, UN, SF, WA

SUBJECT: BRIEFING OF IVORIAN FOREIGN MINISTER ON NAMIBIA

REF: (A) STATE 143426, (B) STATE 142378, (C) USUN 1964

1. TOGETHER WITH FRENCH, BRITISH AND GERMAN AMBASSADORS AND CANADIAN CHARGE, I SAW FOREIGN MINISTER USHER AFTERNOON OF JUNE 21 TO BRIEF HIM ON RESULTS OF CAPE TOWN TALKS ON NAMIBIA. PRIOR TO MEETING WITH USHER, GROUP HELD PREPARATORY MEETING AT FRENCH AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE TO COMPARE NOTES ON INSTRUCTIONS RECEIVED FROM OUR GOVERNMENTS AND TO FRAME OUTLINE OF PRESENTATION.

2. AT MEETING WITH USHER, FRENCH AMBASSADOR RAPHAEL-  
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LEYGUES, AS SENIOR OF FIVE AMBASSADORS, ACTED AS SPOKESMAN FOR GROUP AND GAVE COMPREHENSIVE RUNDOWN OF PROGRESS ACHIEVED IN CAPE TOWN TALKS, COVERING ALL TALKING POINTS CONTAINED IN REFTEL C.

3. AFTER LISTENING TO BRIEFING, USHER COMMENTED THAT THE IVORY COAST BELIEVED THAT THE ACTION TAKEN BY THE FIVE WAS

"POSITIVE" AND THAT THE AGREEMENTS REACHED, IF ADHERED TO, WOULD PROVIDE THE BASIS FOR AN HONORABLE SOLUTION OF THE NAMIBIAN PROBLEM. HE SAID THAT HE UNDERSTOOD THAT SWAPO HAD REJECTED THE NOMINATION OF ADMINISTRATOR GENERAL, BUT IN THE VIEW OF THE IVORY COAST, LEGAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE NOMINATION OF AN ADMINISTRATOR GENERAL WOULD BE MITIGATED BY SOUTH AFRICAN AGREEMENT TO THE PRESENCE OF A REPRESENTATIVE OF UN SECRETARY GENERAL WHO, TOGETHER WITH HIS STAFF, WOULD BE INSTALLED IN NAMIBIA. USHER THOUGHT THAT THIS WAS A REASONABLE COMPROMISE.

4. HE WENT ON TO SAY, "IN LIFE THERE IS ALWAYS A CHOICE BETWEEN FICTION AND REALITY. THE IVORY COAST PREFERS PRAGMATIC APPROACHES RATHER THAN FICTION. THE FACT THAT A UN PRESENCE WOULD BE ESTABLISHED IN NAMIBIA REPRESENTS PROGRESS SINCE THE SOUTH AFRICANS HAVE ALWAYS DENIED THAT UN HAD THE LEAST AUTHORITY THERE."

5. USHER ALSO COMMENTED THAT HE BELIEVED THE FIVE HAD BEEN CORRECT IN NOT DISCUSSING WITH THE SOUTH AFRICANS THE INSTALLATION OF ETHICALLY BASED GOVERNMENTS. "IN THE IVORY COAST," HE SAID, "WE ARE NOT PARTISANS OF BANTUSANS." FOREIGN MINISTER WENT ON TO SAY, "YOU CAN TELL YOUR GOVERNMENT THAT WE ARE GRATEFUL TO THE FIVE FOR THEIR EFFORTS, WHICH WE SUPPORT. THE MODERATE AFRICAN STATES HAVE DECIDED TO MAKE THEIR VIEWS KNOWN AT THE OAU MEETING IN LIBREVILLE. REGARDING NAMIBIA, CONFIDENTIAL

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THE POSITION OF THE IVORY COAST IS NOT TO ENGAGE IN MANEUVERS ON BEHALF OF THIS OR THAT POLITICAL LEADER OR FACTION BUT TO WORK EXCLUSIVELY FOR INDEPENDENCE OF NAMIBIA."

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04  
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01  
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 DHA-02 AID-05 ACDA-07 TRSE-00  
IOE-00 /096 W  
-----056648 231200Z /50

P 221551Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4119

INFO AMEMBASSY BAMAKO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA PRIORITY

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 ABIDJAN 6291

6. USHER CONCLUDED BY SAYING THAT IT WAS UNFORTUNATE THAT THE SAME KIND OF APPROACH HAD NOT BEEN TAKEN TOWARD RHODESIA AND ANGOLA. A SOLUTION OF BOTH OF THESE PROBLEMS WOULD HAVE BEEN GREATLY FACILITATED AND, IN THE CASE OF ANGOLA, THE COUNTRY WOULD HAVE BEEN SPARED FROM DOMINATION BY "A MARXIST MINORITY."

7. COMMENT: THIS WAS AN EFFECTIVE JOINT DEMARCHE AND USHER APPEARED GENUINELY IMPRESSED BY THE RESULTS ACHIEVED IN THE CAPE TOWN TALKS. HE SAID THAT HE WOULD BRIEF PRESIDENT HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY FULLY ON THE PRESENTATION BEFORE THEY DEPART FOR LIBREVILLE NEXT WEEK. USHER'S COMMENT THAT THE "MODERATES" INTENDED TO PLAY A VIGOROUS ROLE AT THE OAU SUMMIT TALLYS WITH OTHER STATEMENTS MADE BY IVORIAN OFFICIALS RECENTLY AND IS CONSISTENT WITH THE DISCUSSIONS THAT TOOK PLACE AT THE CEAO  
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MEETING IN ABIDJAN EARLIER THIS MONTH. FROM THIS STANDPOINT THE NAMIBIA INITIATIVE WAS PARTICULARLY TIMELY AND THE LIBREVILLE SUMMIT SHOULD BE UNUSUALLY INTERESTING. STEARNS

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## Message Attributes

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